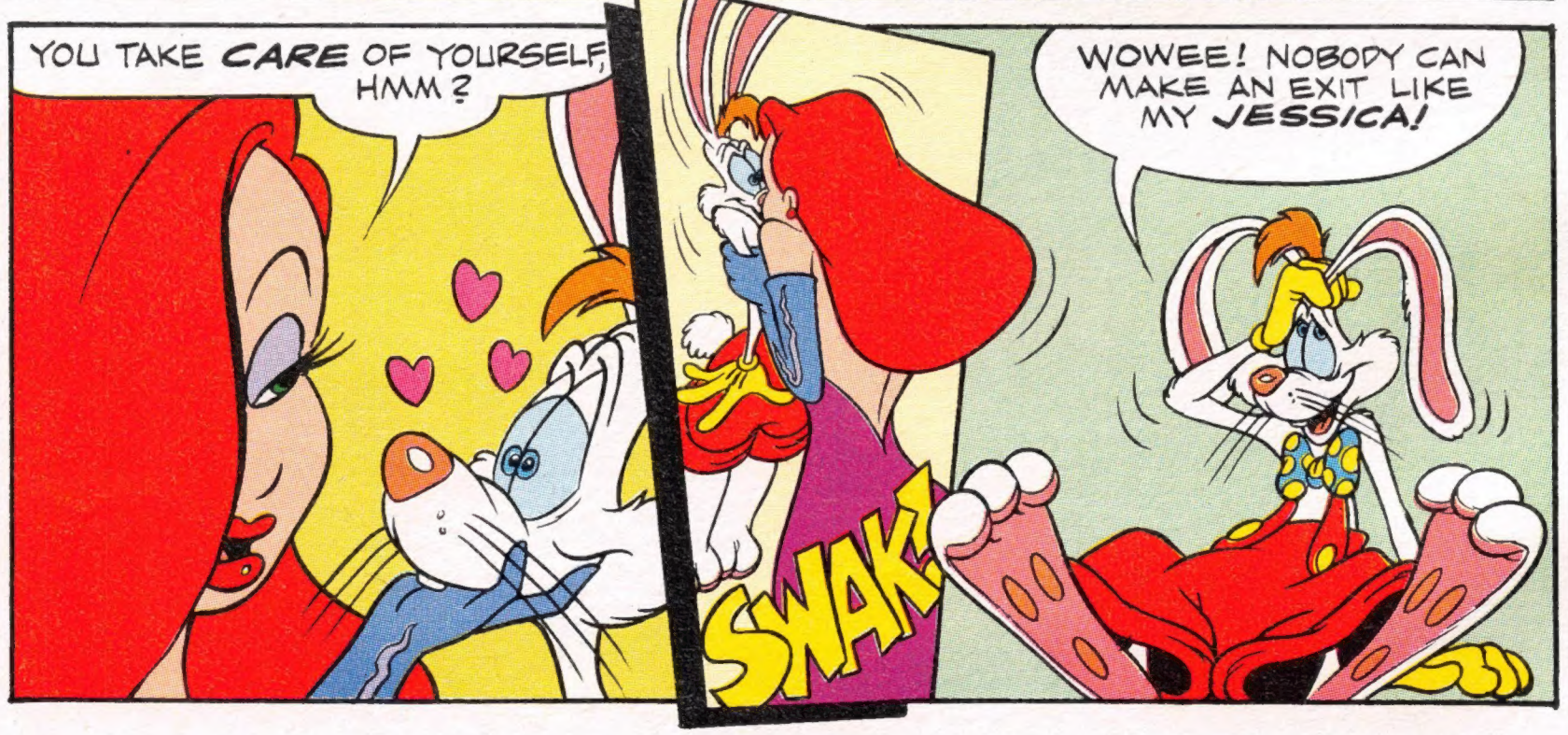

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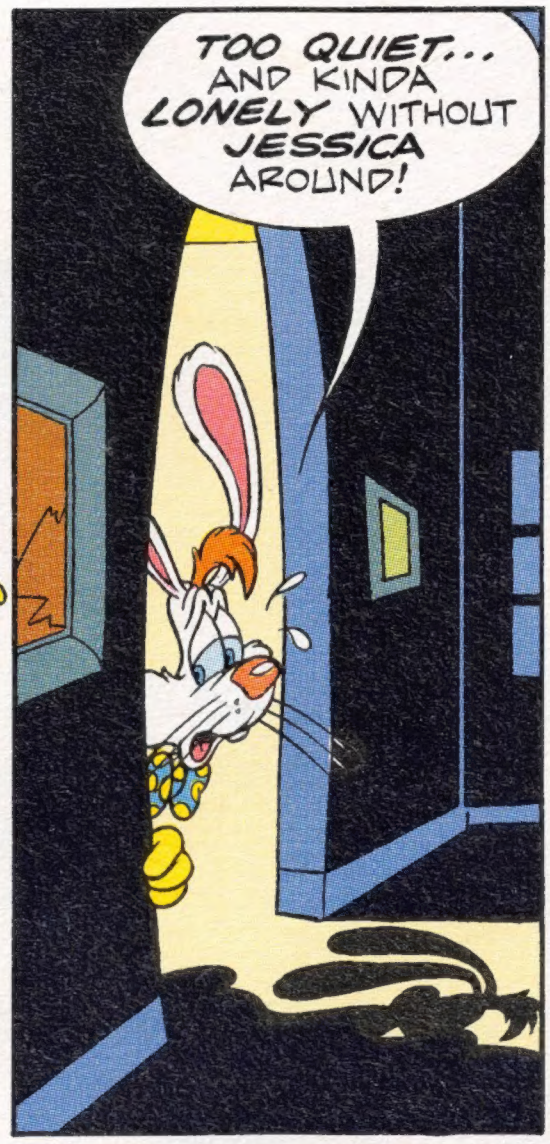
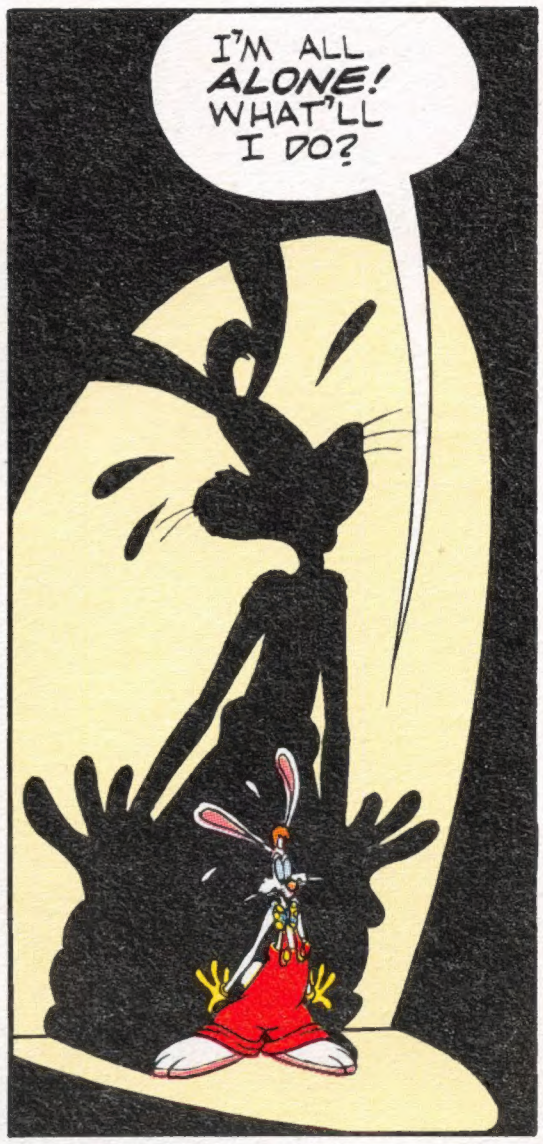
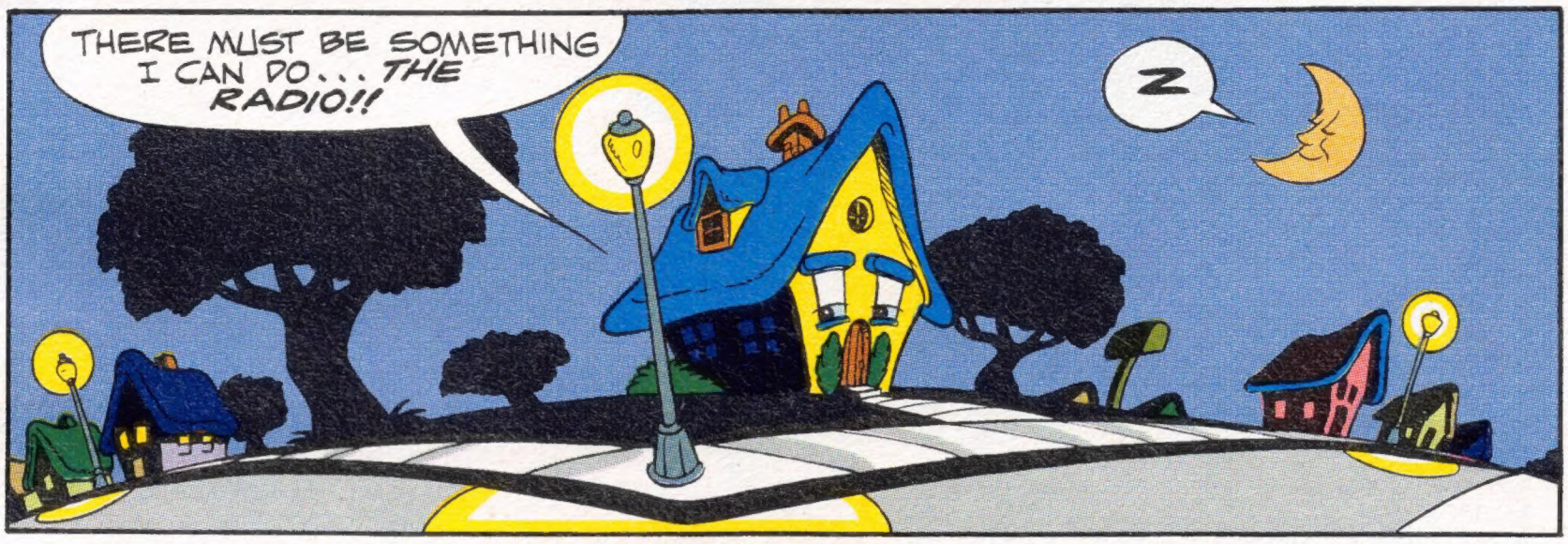
Based on characters created by Gary K. Wolf

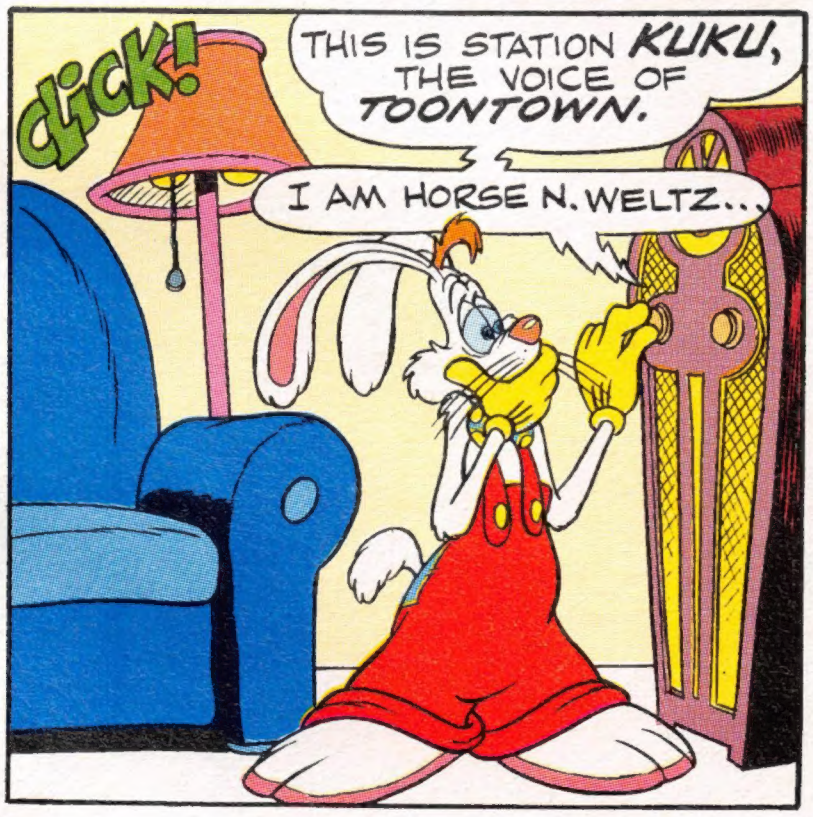
Writer: Doug Rice Artist: Bill Langley Lettering: Todd Klein Coloring: Valerie Dalchele

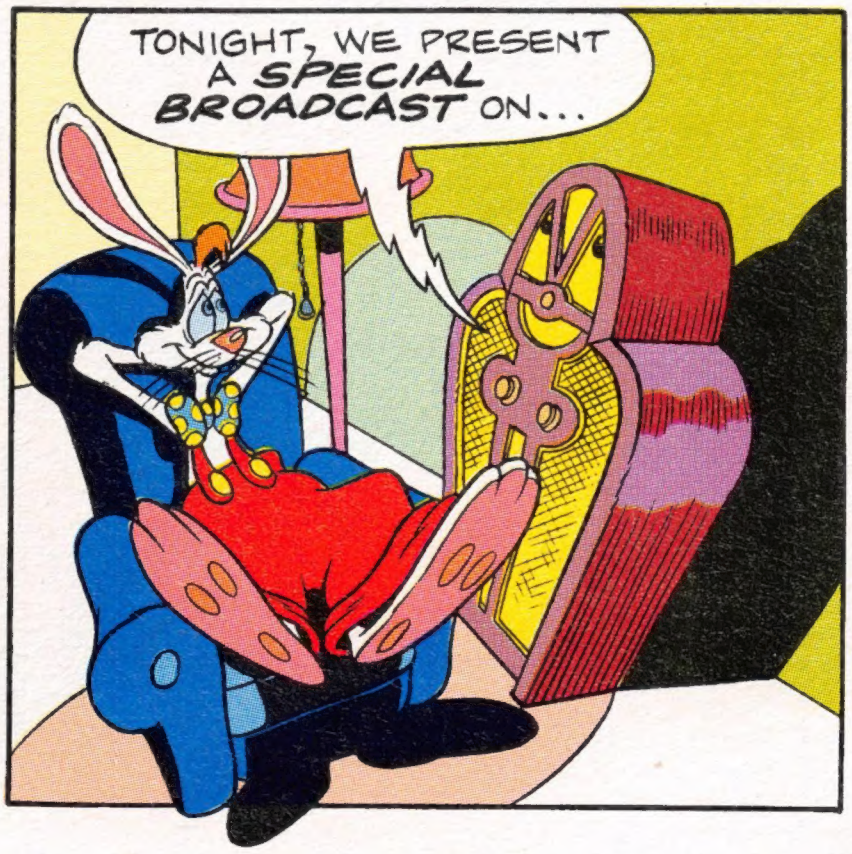
SO, I'VE GOT THE HOUSE ALL TO MYSELF TONIGHT, JUST PLENTY OF...
...PEACE AND QUIET.

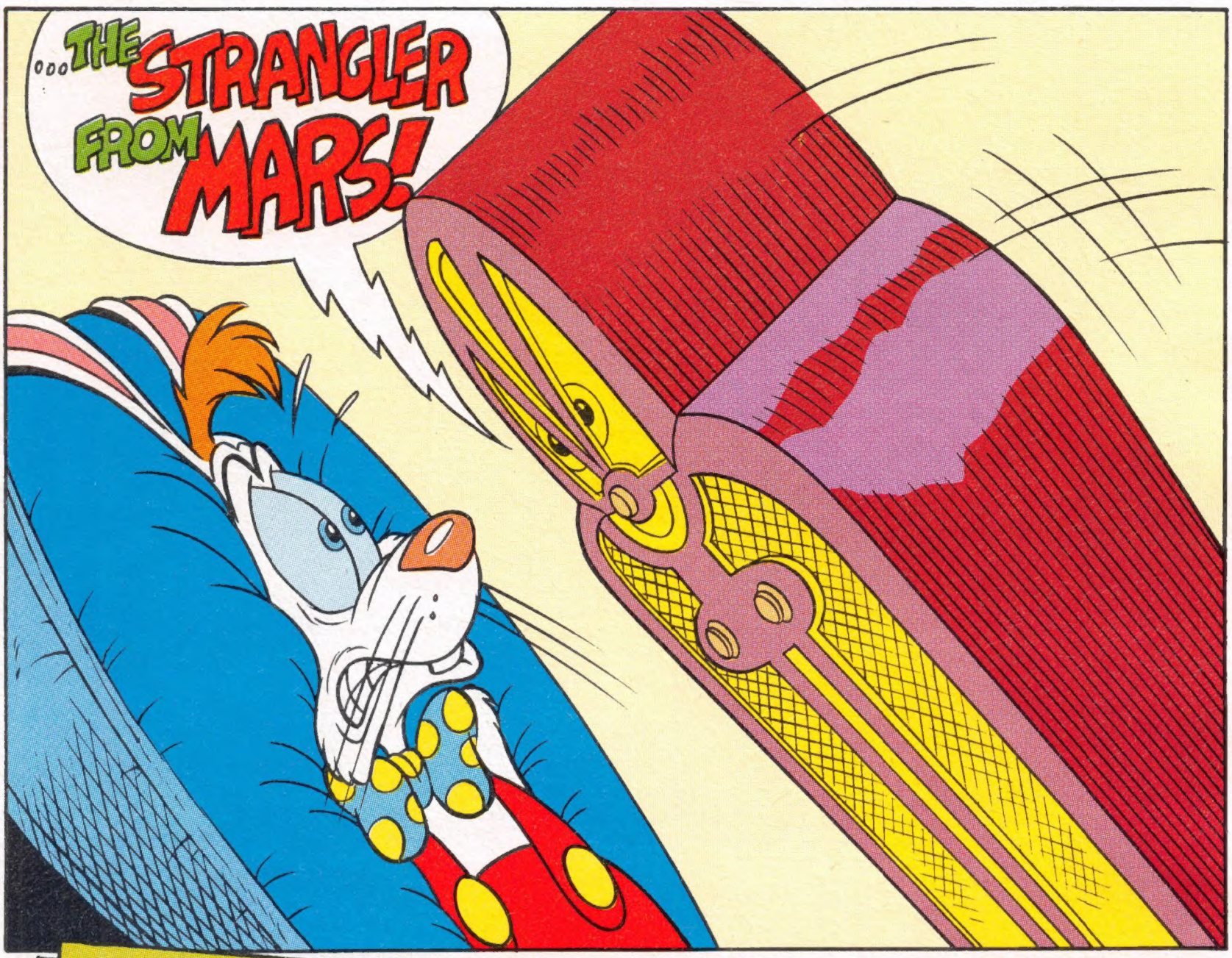

TOO QUIET... AND KINDA LONELY WITHOUT JESSICA AROUND!

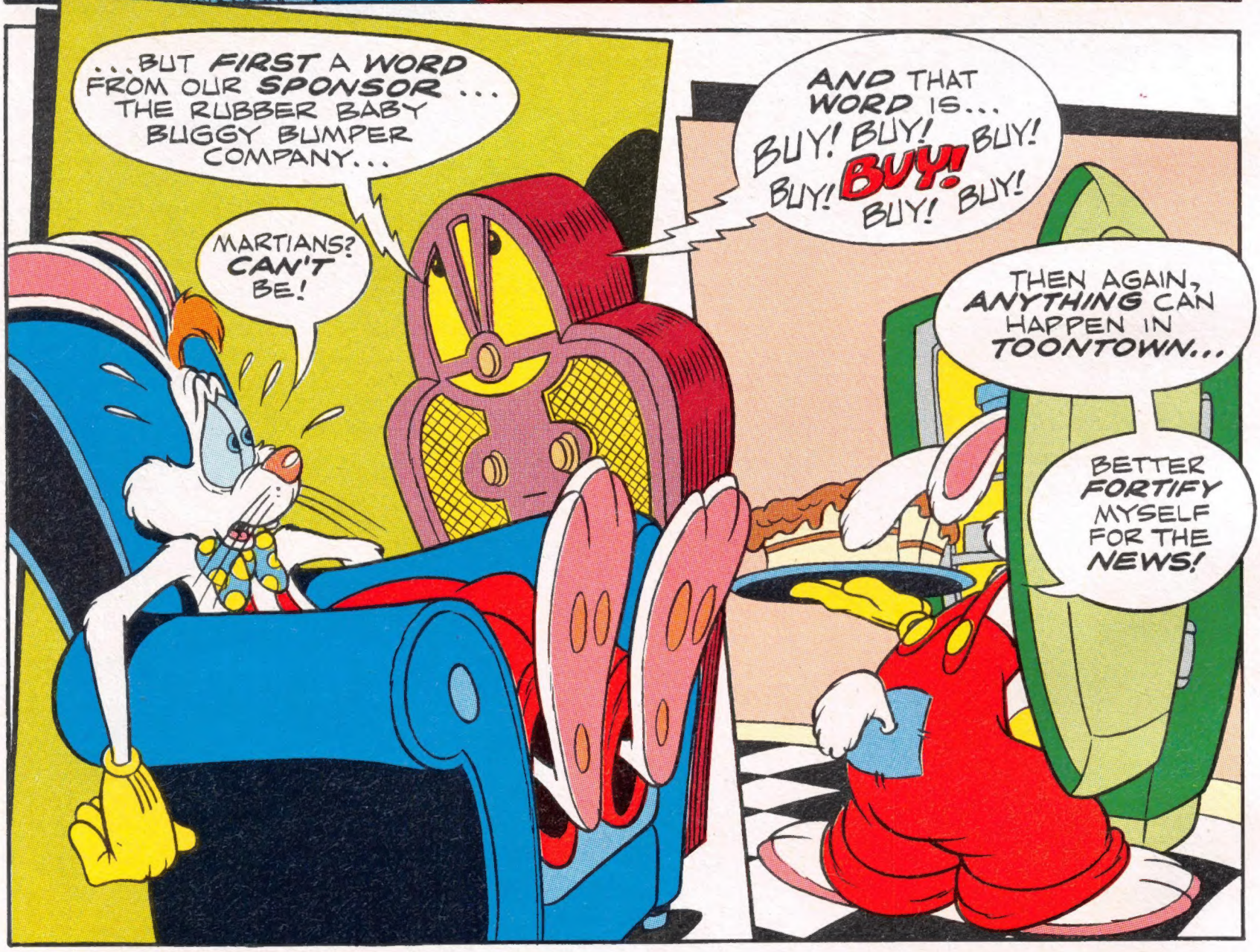

I'M ALL ALONE! WHAT'LL I DO?

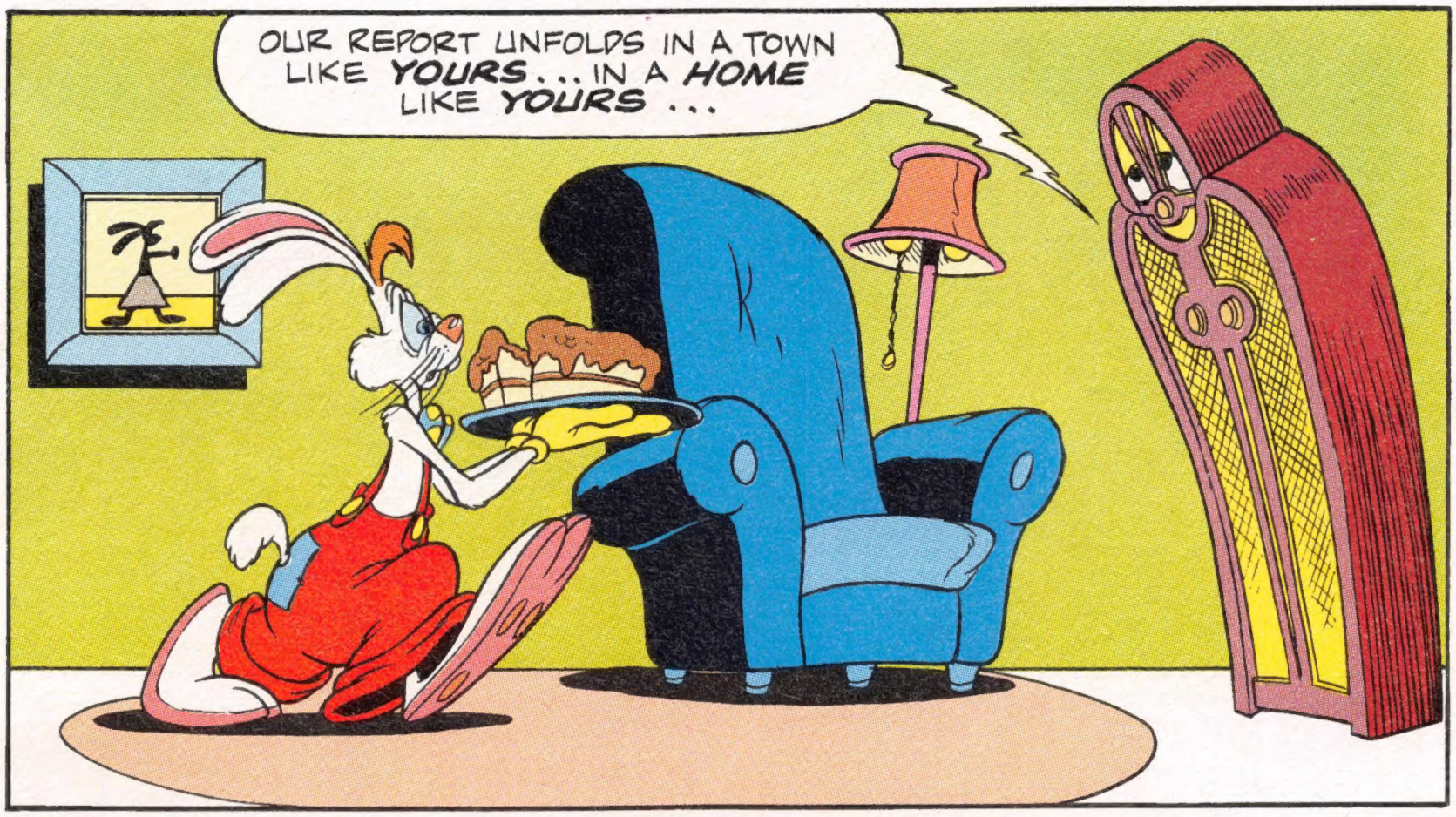

THERE MUST BE SOMETHING I CAN DO... THE RADIO!!
Z

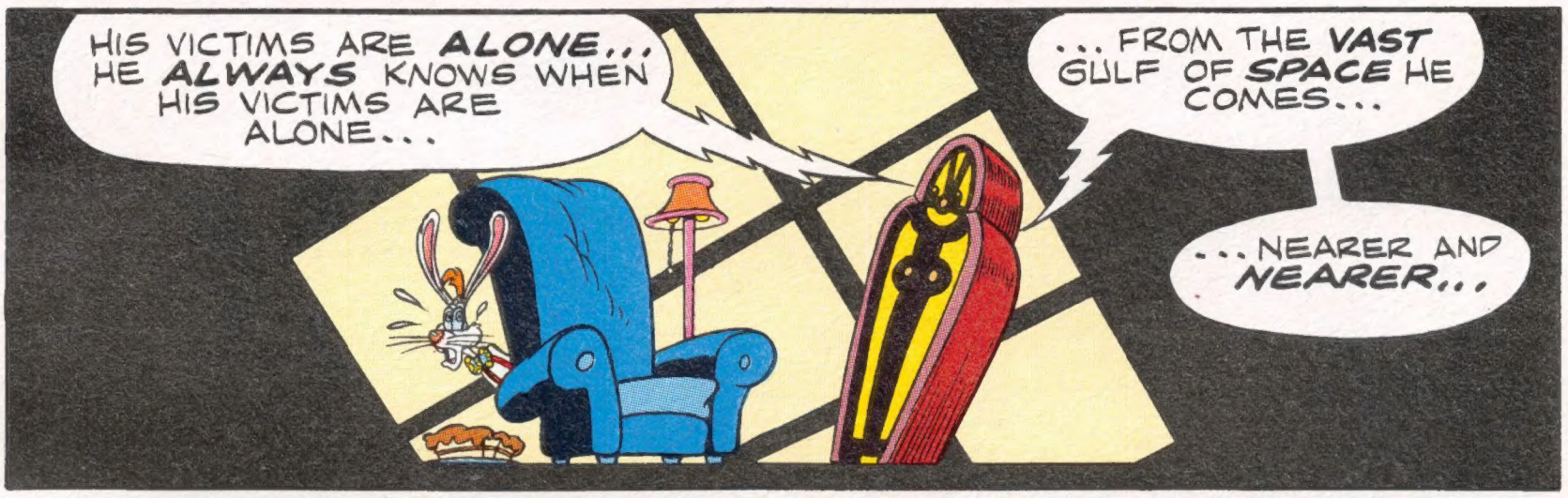

CLICK!
THIS IS STATION KUKU, THE VOICE OF TOONTOWN.
I AM HORSE N. WELTZ...

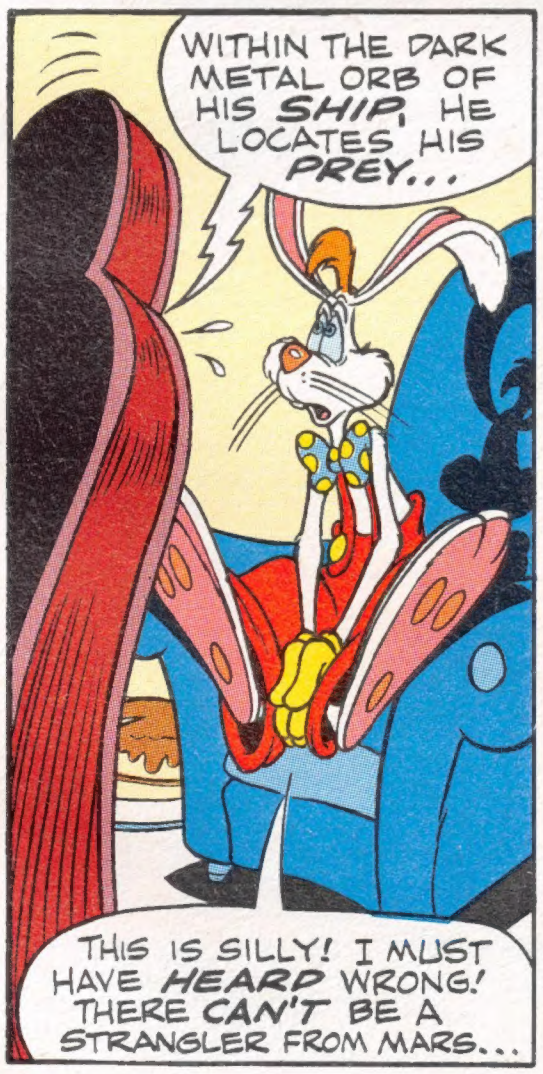

TONIGHT, WE PRESENT A SPECIAL BROADCAST ON...


...THE STRANGLER FROM MARS!

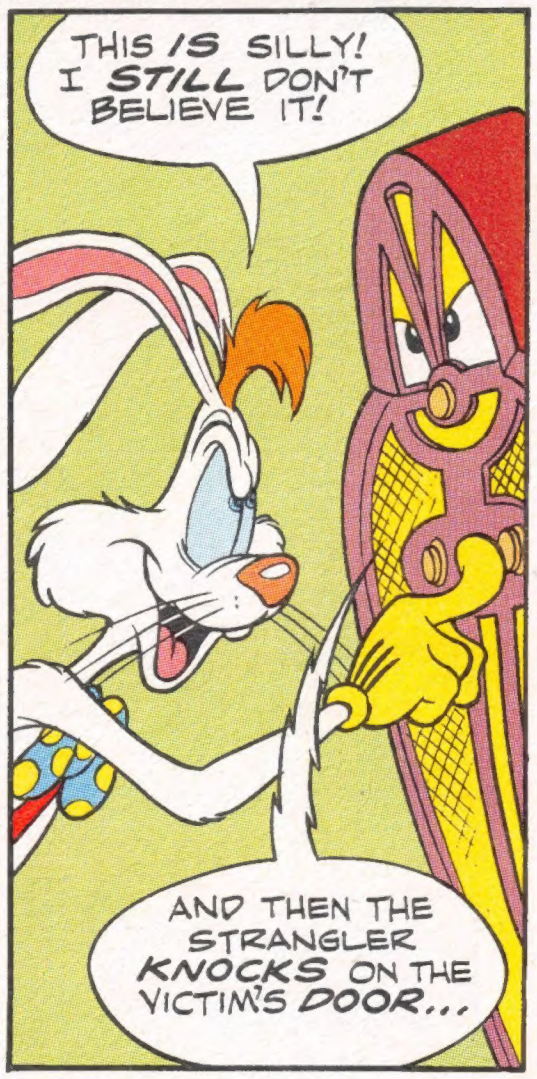

...BUT FIRST A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR ... THE RUBBER BABY BUGGY BUMPER COMPANY...
MARTIANS? CAN'T BE!
AND THAT WORD IS... BUY! BUY! BUY! BUY! BUY! BUY! BUY!
THEN AGAIN, ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN IN TOONTOWN...
BETTER FORTIFY MYSELF FOR THE NEWS!

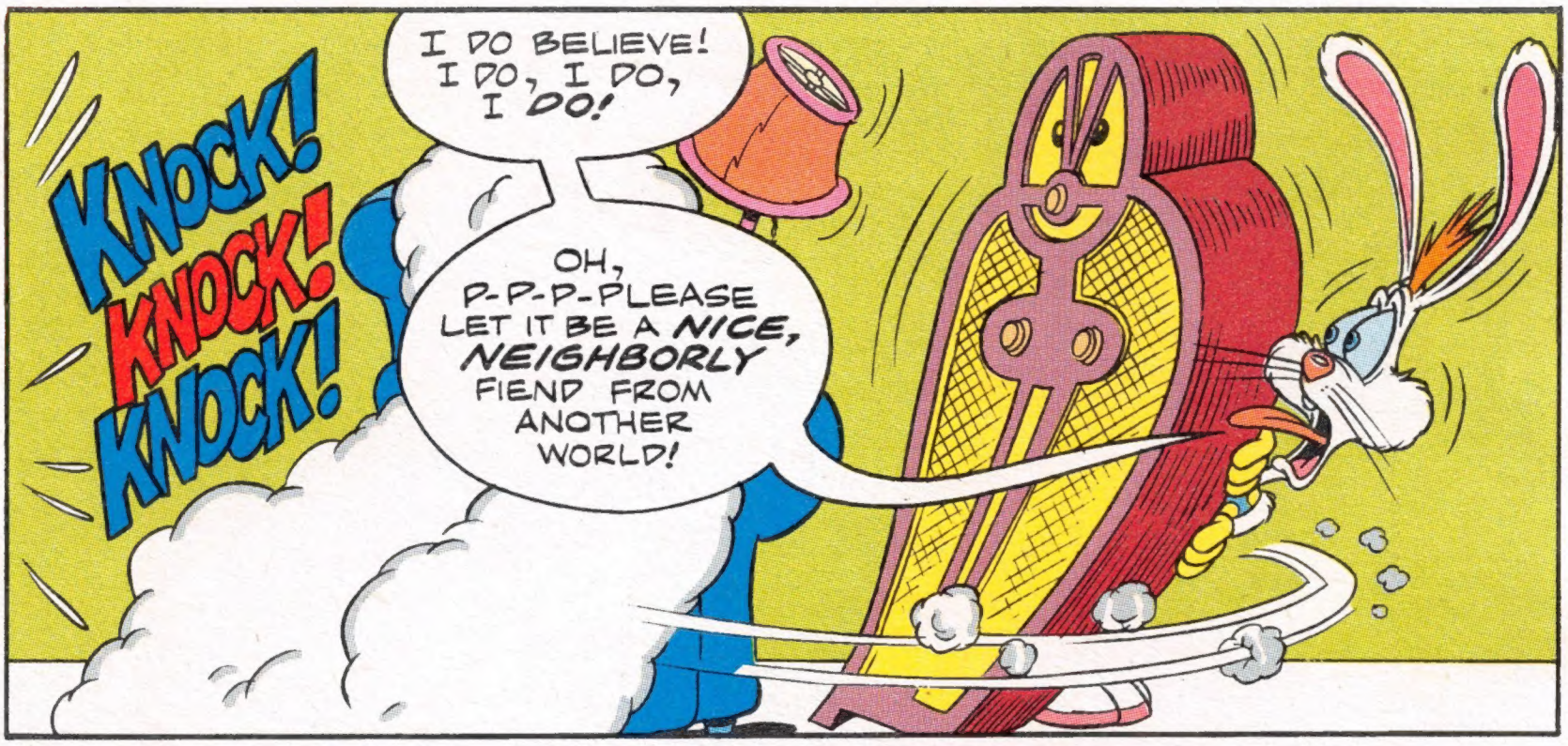

OUR REPORT UNFOLDS IN A TOWN LIKE YOURS... IN A HOME LIKE YOURS ...


HIS VICTIMS ARE ALONE... HE ALWAYS KNOWS WHEN HIS VICTIMS ARE ALONE...
... FROM THE VAST GULF OF SPACE HE COMES...
...NEARER AND NEARER...

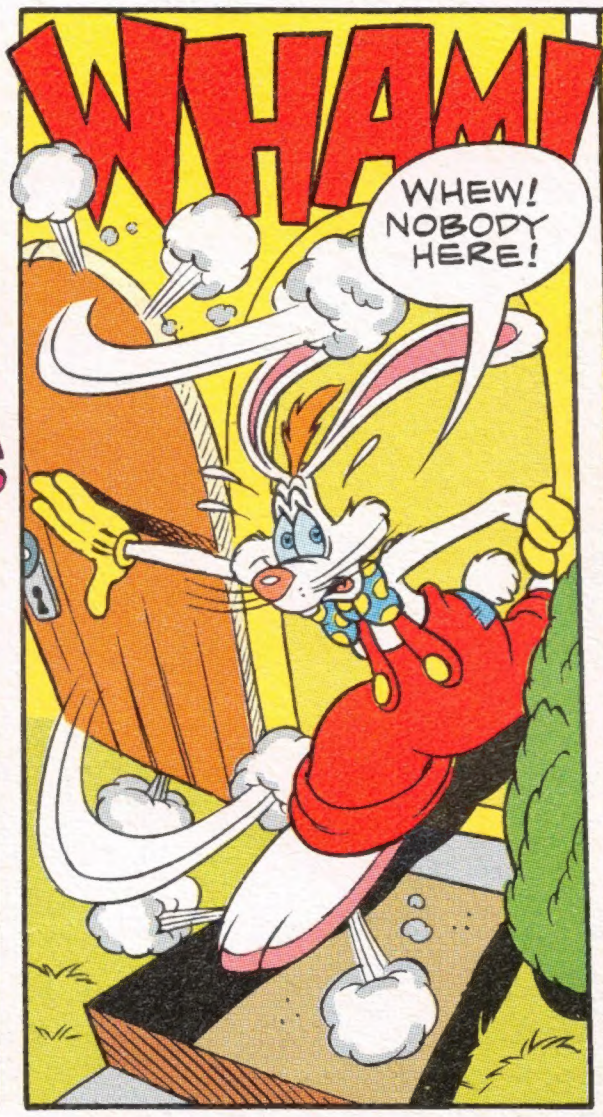

WITHIN THE DARK METAL ORB OF HIS SHIP, HE LOCATES HIS PREY...
THIS IS SILLY! I MUST HAVE HEARD WRONG! THERE CAN'T BE A STRANGLER FROM MARS...

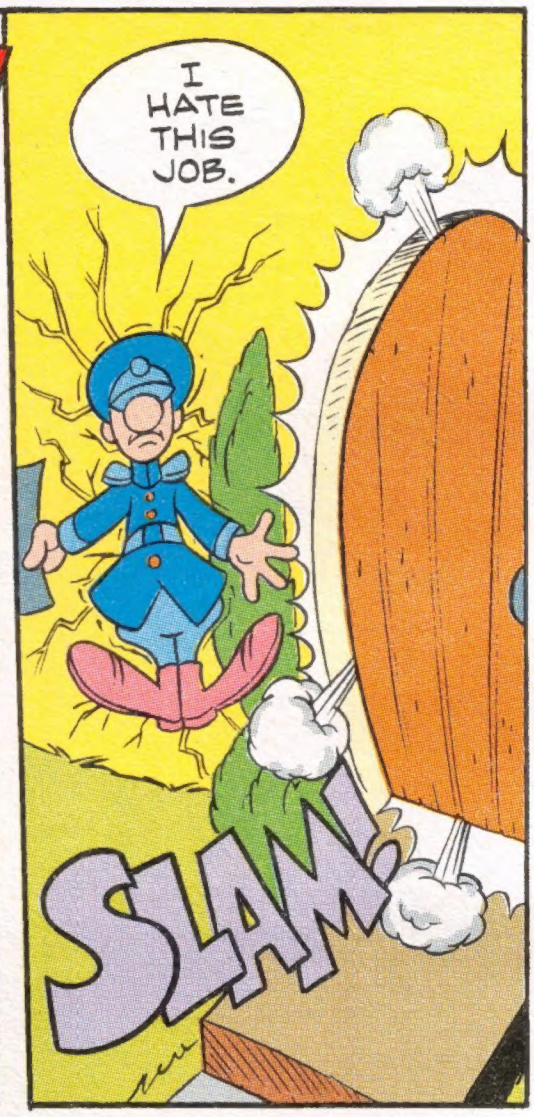
... MAYBE IT'S THE WRANGLER FROM AFAR!
NO, IT'S THE STRANGLER FROM MARS!
DARN.

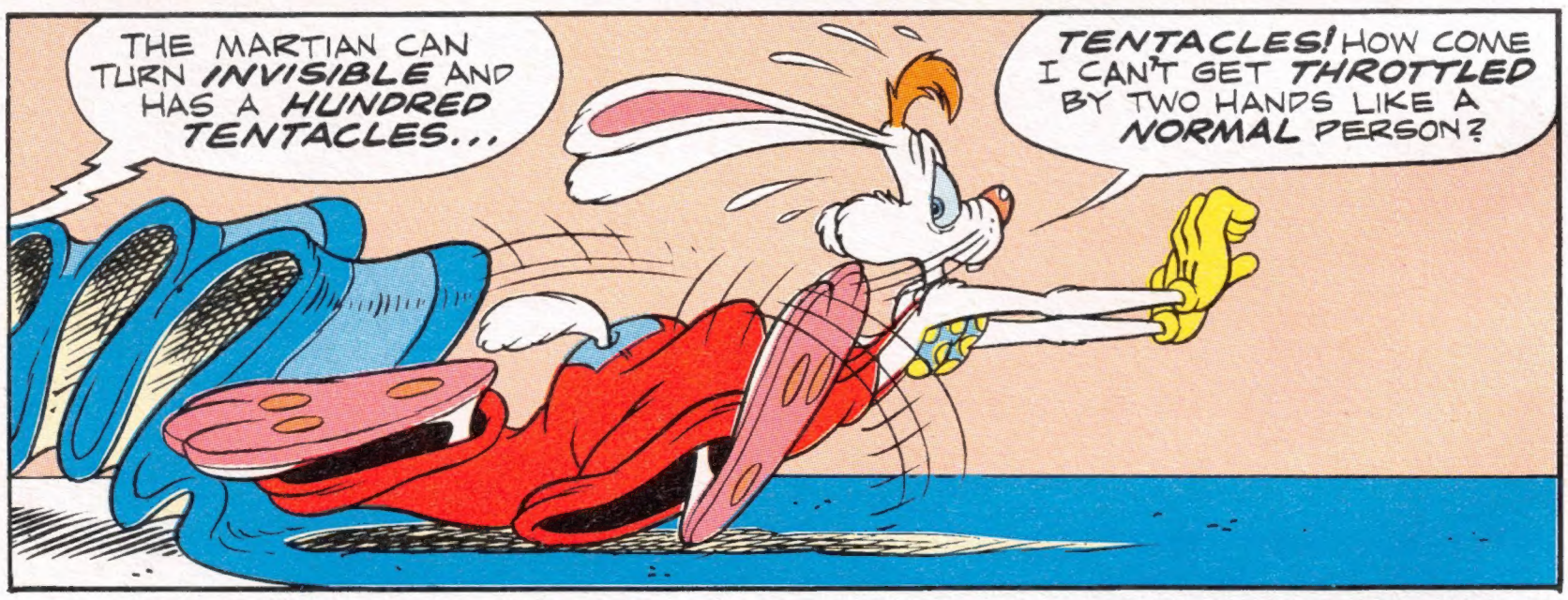

THIS IS SILLY! I STILL DON'T BELIEVE IT!
AND THEN THE STRANGLER KNOCKS ON THE VICTIM'S DOOR...

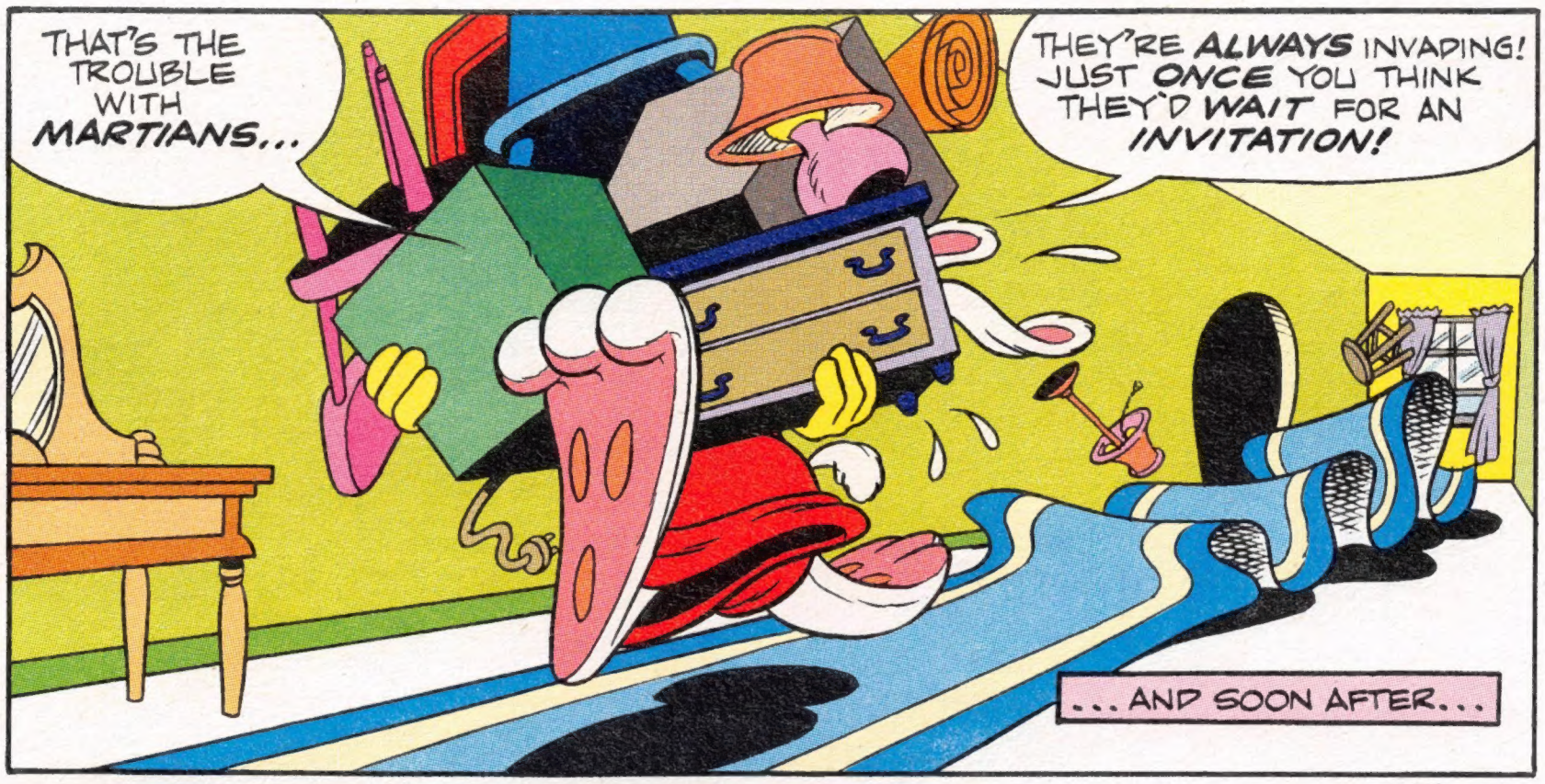

KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK!
I DO BELIEVE! I DO, I DO, I DO!
OH, P-P-P-PLEASE LET IT BE A NICE, NEIGHBORLY FIEND FROM ANOTHER WORLD!

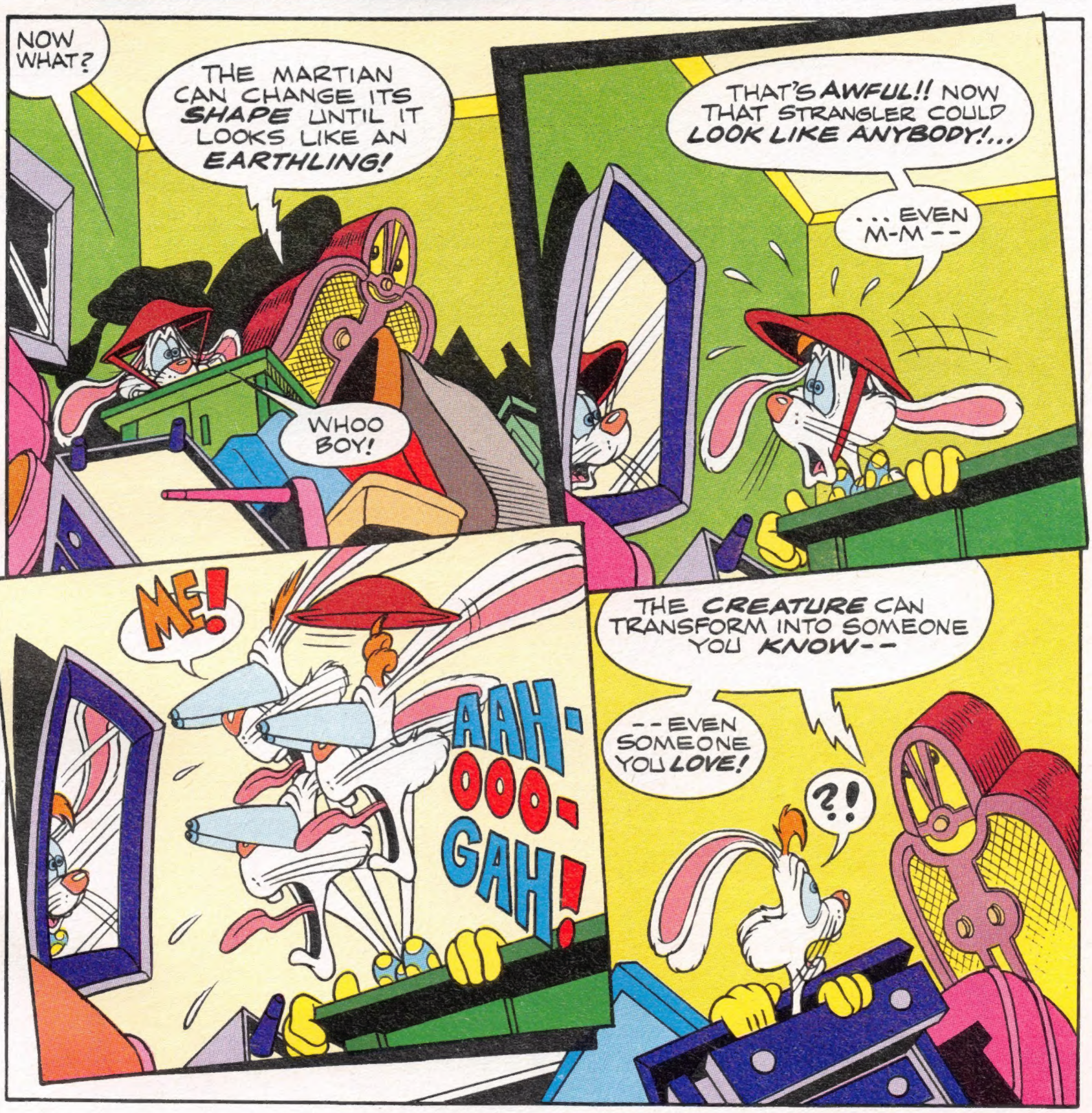
HELLO? TELEGRAM FOR ROGER RAB--
KNOCK! KNOCK!

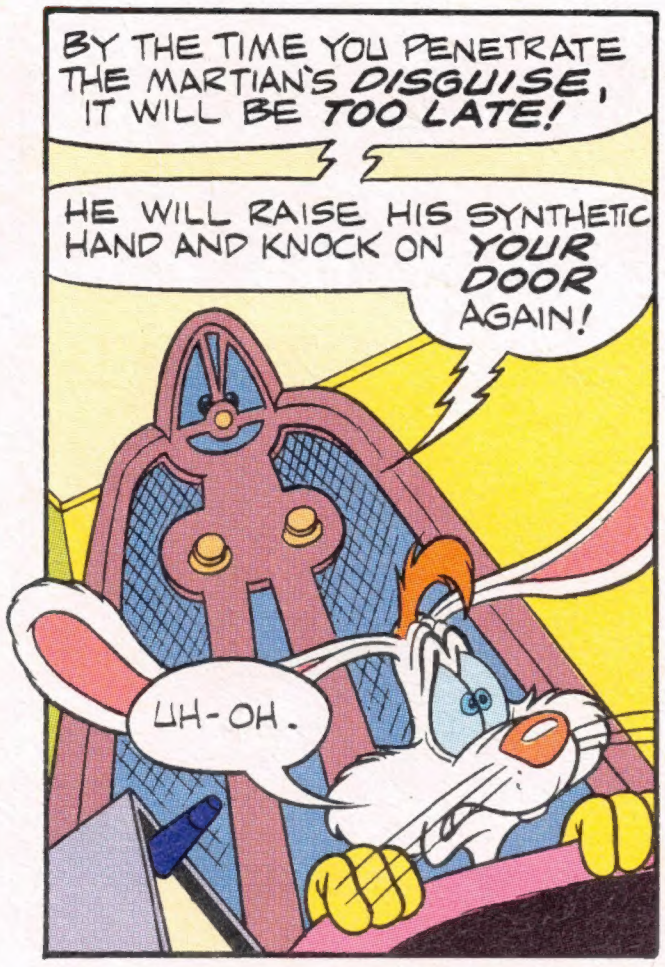

WHAM!
WHEW! NOBODY HERE!

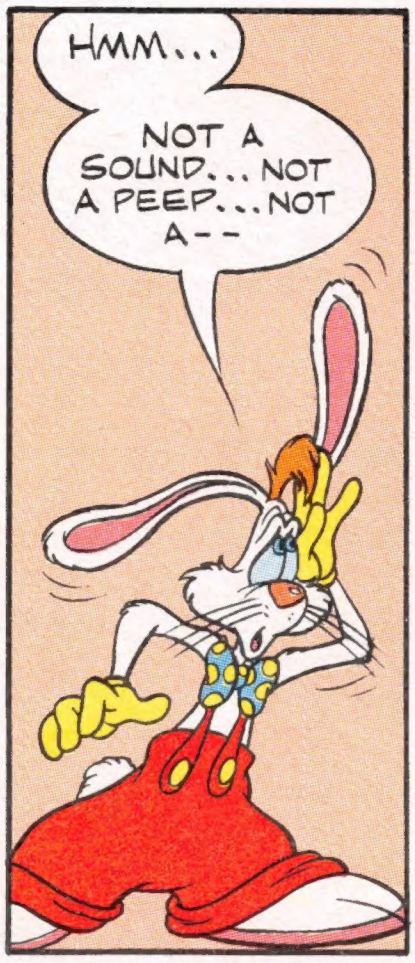

I HATE THIS JOB.
SLAM

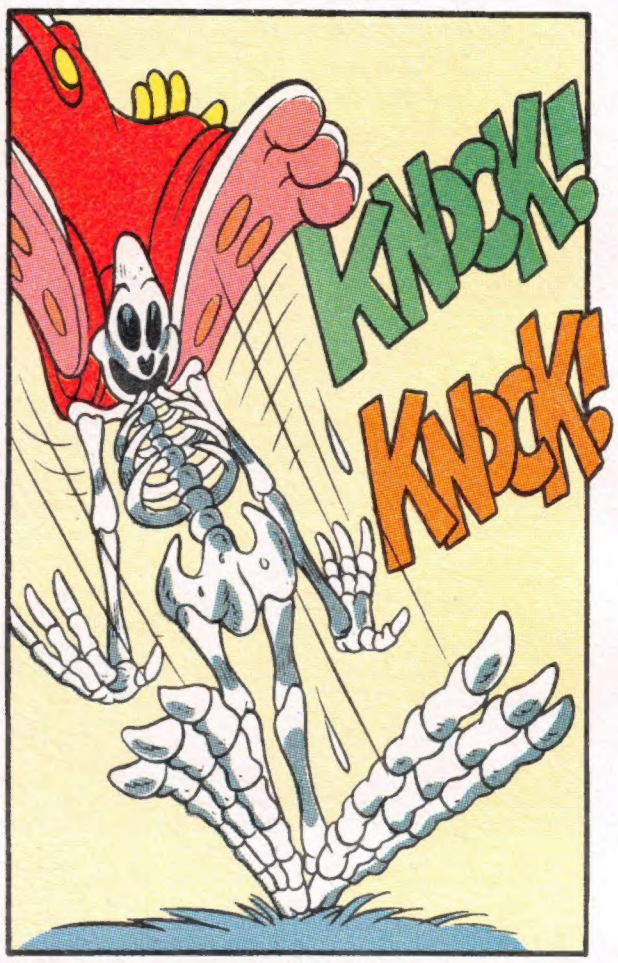

THE MARTIAN CAN TURN INVISIBLE AND HAS A HUNDRED TENTACLES...
TENTACLES! HOW COME I CAN'T GET THROTTLED BY TWO HANDS LIKE A NORMAL PERSON?

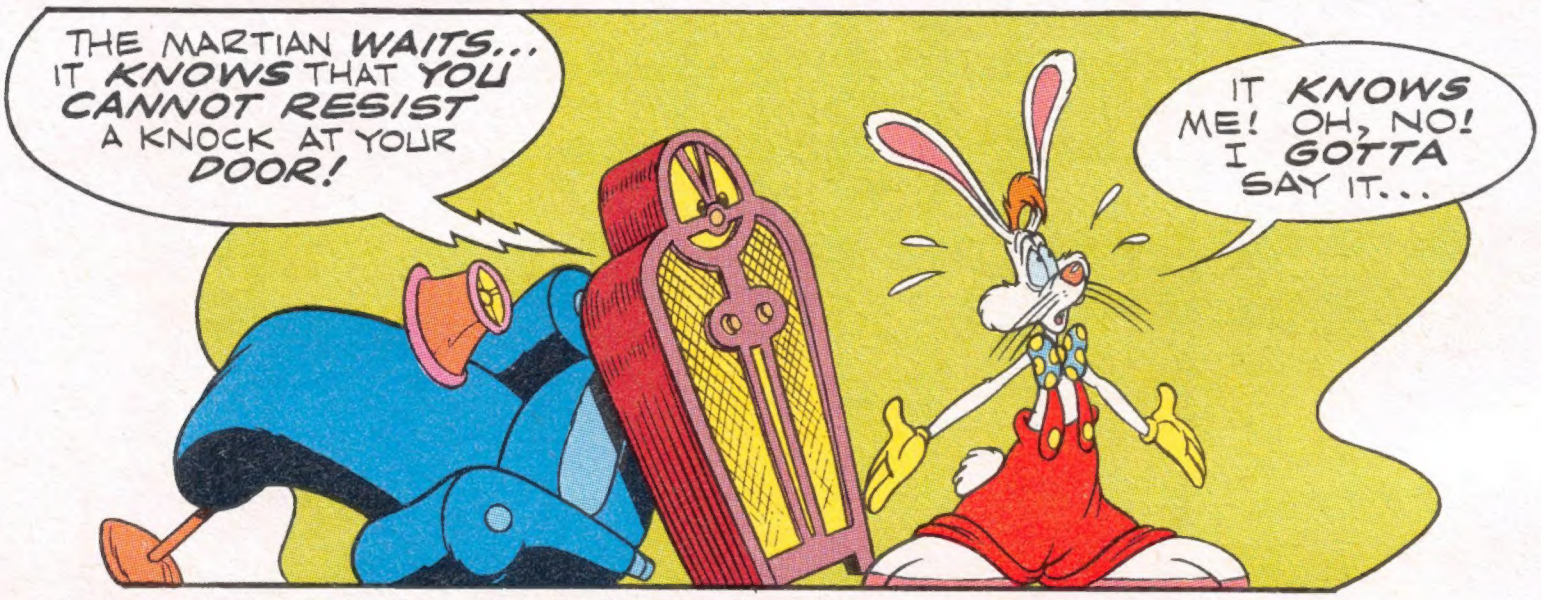

THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH MARTIANS...
THEY'RE ALWAYS INVADING! JUST ONCE YOU THINK THEY'D WAIT FOR AN INVITATION!
...AND SOON AFTER...

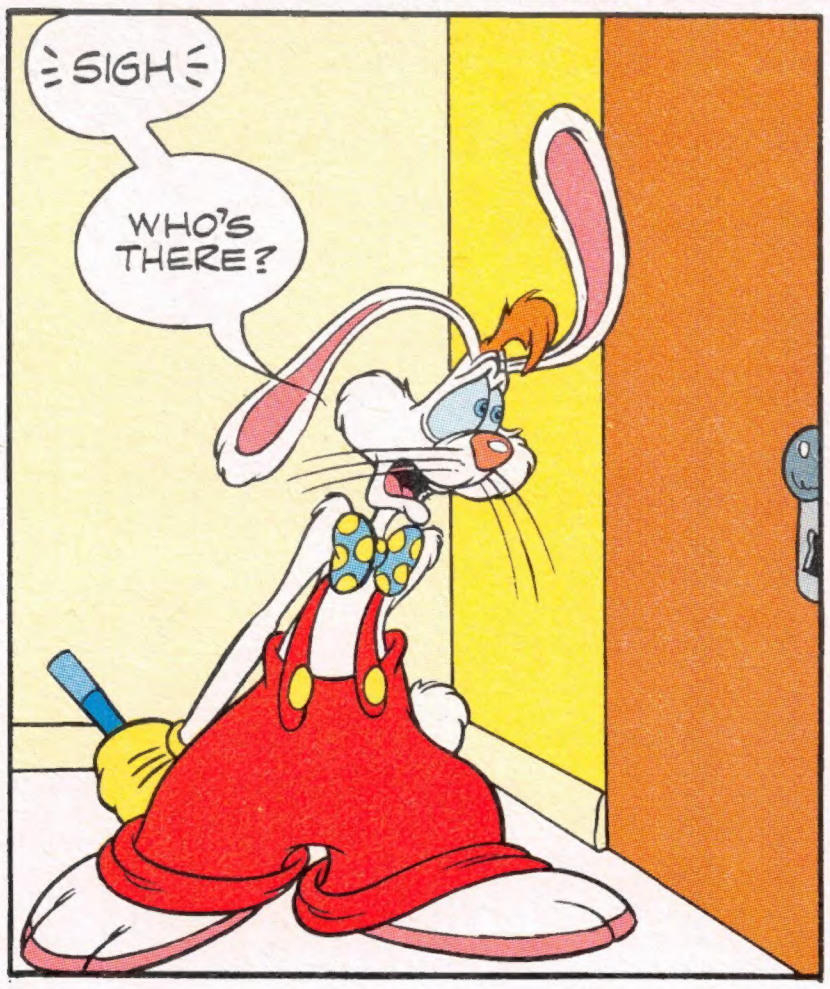

NOW WHAT?
THE MARTIAN CAN CHANGE ITS SHAPE UNTIL IT LOOKS LIKE AN EARTHLING!
WHOO BOY!
THAT'S AWFUL!! NOW THAT STRANGLER COULD LOOK LIKE ANYBODY!...
...EVEN M-M--
ME!
AAH-OOO-GAH!
THE CREATURE CAN TRANSFORM INTO SOMEONE YOU KNOW--
--EVEN SOMEONE YOU LOVE!
?!

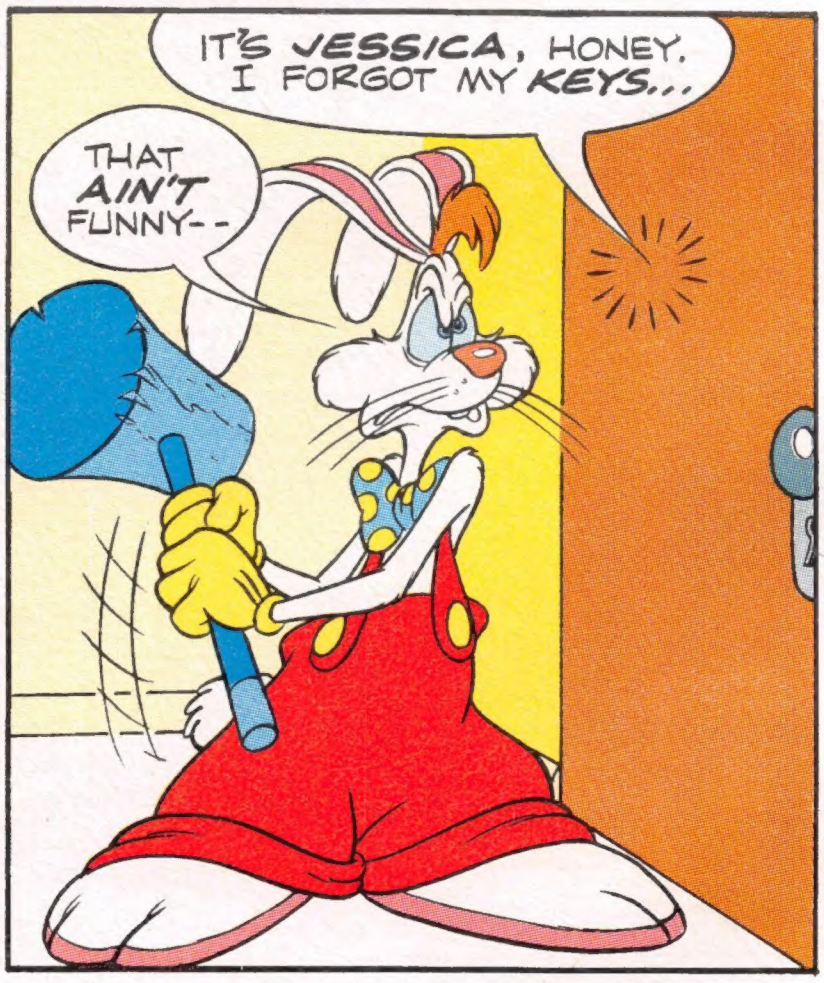

BY THE TIME YOU PENETRATE THE MARTIAN'S DISGUISE, IT WILL BE TOO LATE!
HE WILL RAISE HIS SYNTHETIC HAND AND KNOCK ON YOUR DOOR AGAIN!
UH-OH.

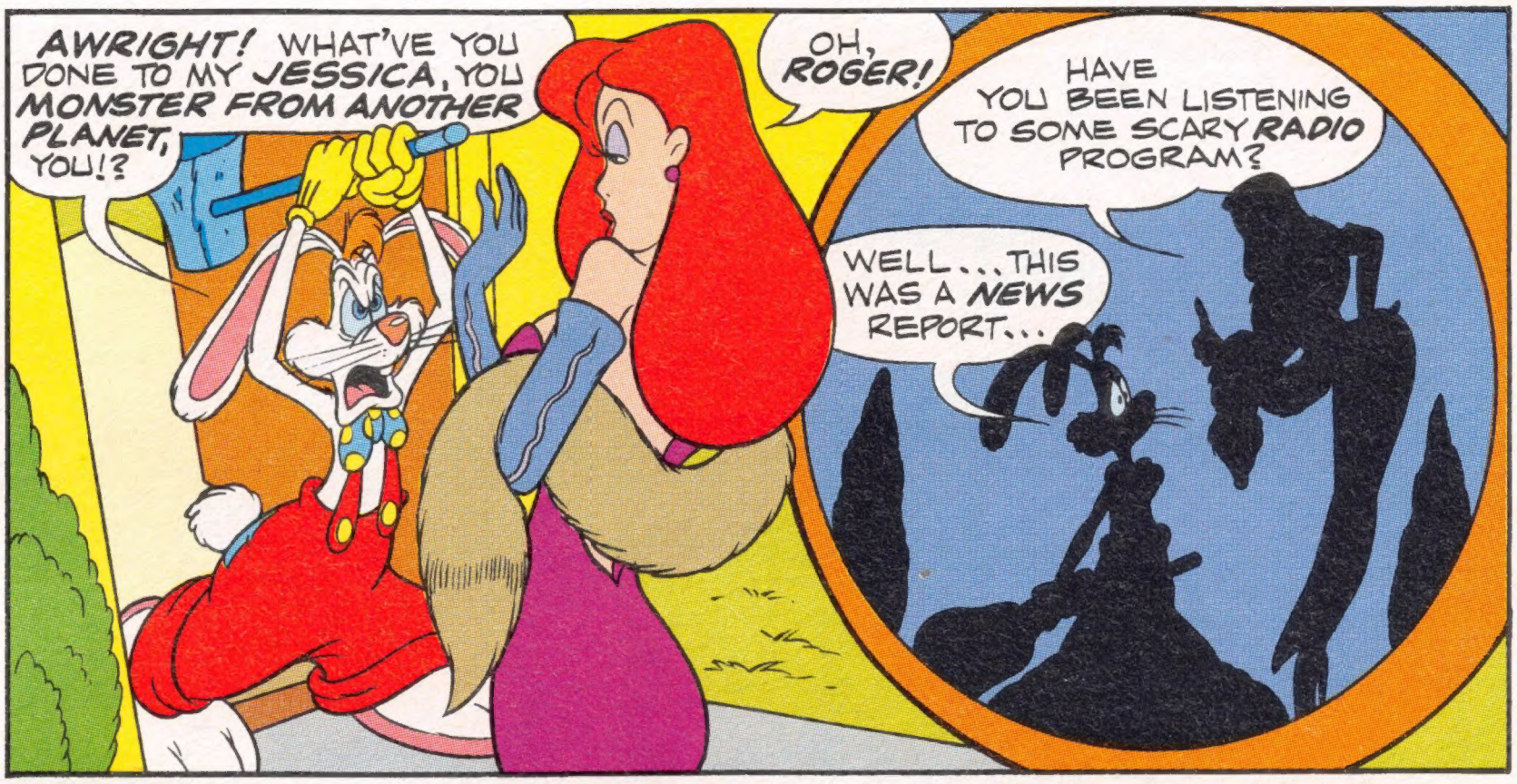

HMM...
NOT A SOUND... NOT A PEEP... NOT A--

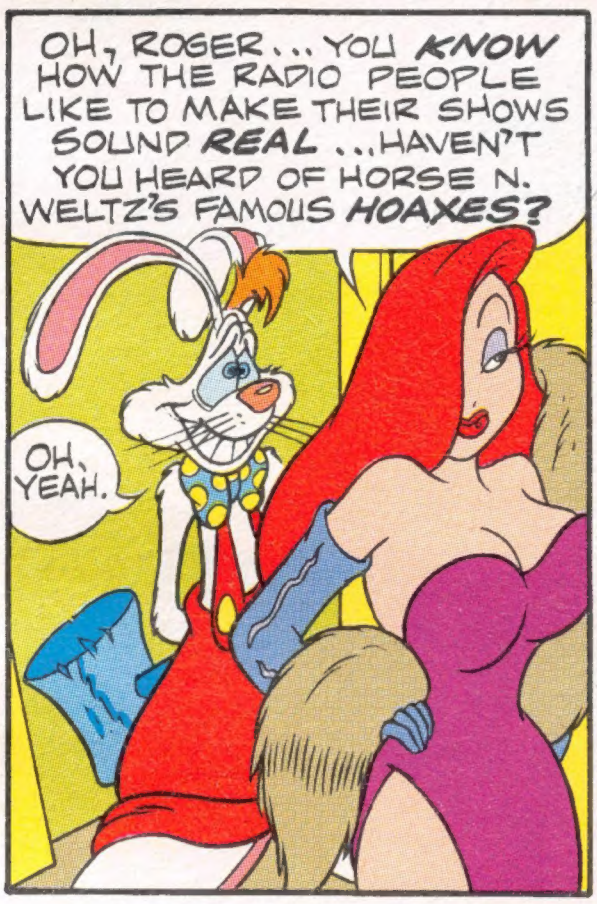

KNOCK!
KNOCK!

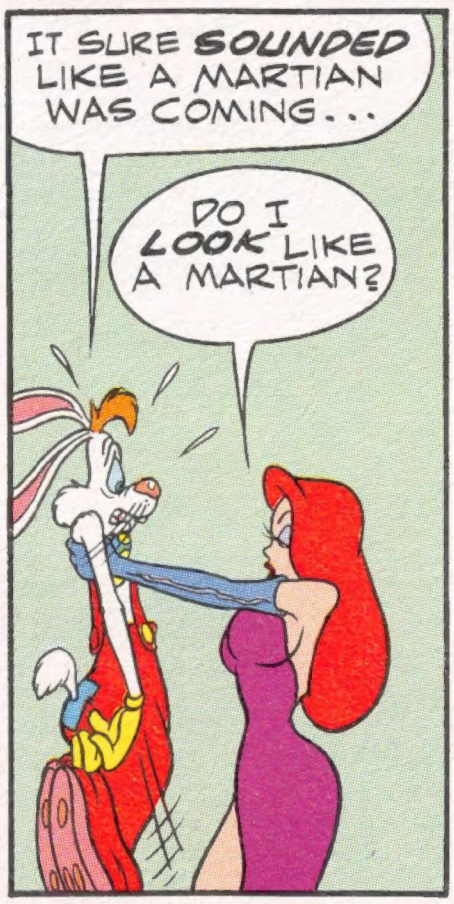

THE MARTIAN WAITS... IT KNOWS THAT YOU CANNOT RESIST A KNOCK AT YOUR DOOR!
IT KNOWS ME! OH, NO! I GOTTA SAY IT...

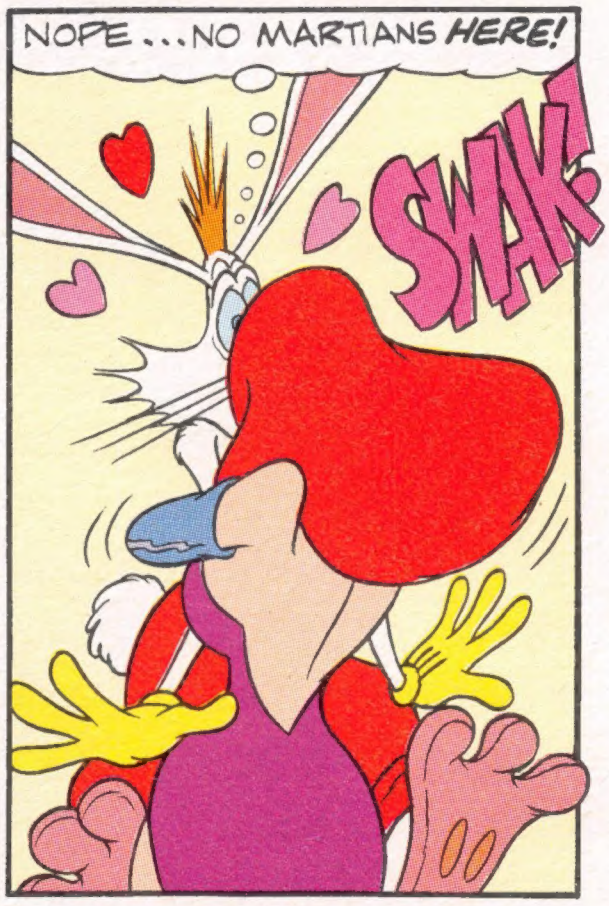

SIGH
WHO'S THERE?

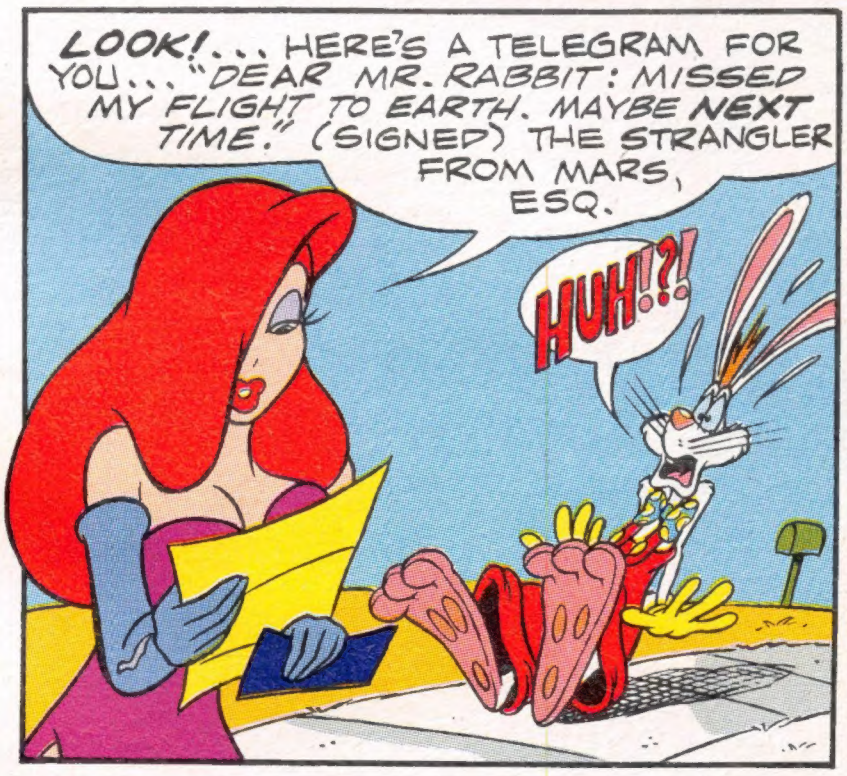

IT'S JESSICA, HONEY. I FORGOT MY KEYS...
THAT AIN'T FUNNY--

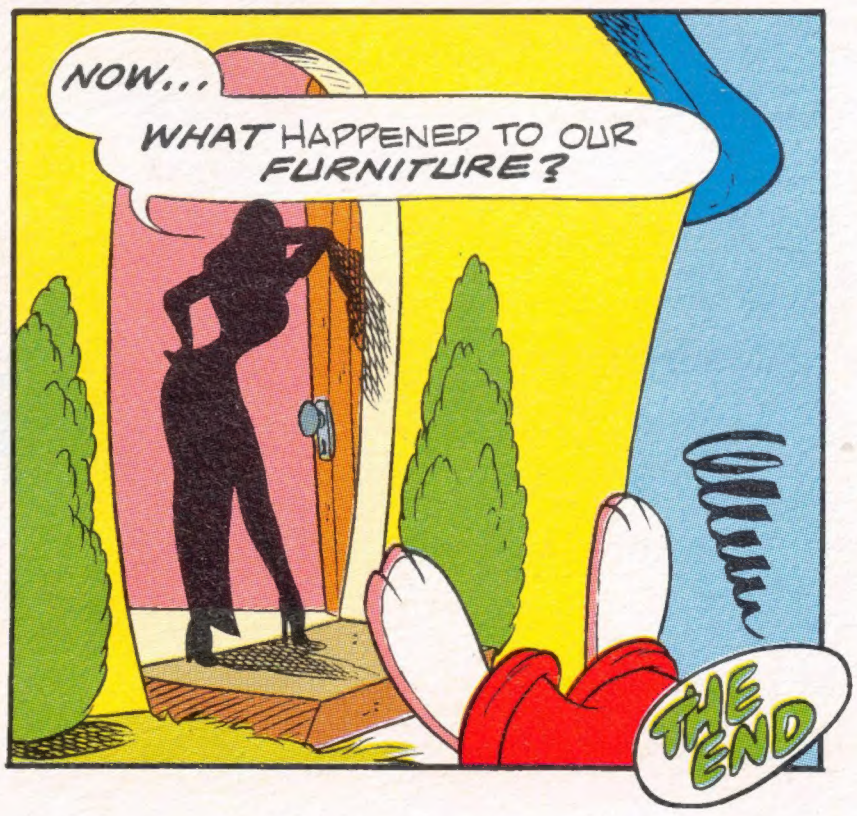

AWRIGHT! WHAT'VE YOU DONE TO MY JESSICA, YOU MONSTER FROM ANOTHER PLANET, YOU!?
OH, ROGER!
HAVE YOU BEEN LISTENING TO SOME SCARY RADIO PROGRAM?
WELL... THIS WAS A NEWS REPORT...


OH, ROGER... YOU KNOW HOW THE RADIO PEOPLE LIKE TO MAKE THEIR SHOWS SOUND REAL ...HAVEN'T YOU HEARD OF HORSE N. WELTZ'S FAMOUS HOAXES?
OH, YEAH.


IT SURE SOUNDED LIKE A MARTIAN WAS COMING...
DO I LOOK LIKE A MARTIAN?


NOPE... NO MARTIANS HERE!
SWAK!


LOOK!... HERE'S A TELEGRAM FOR YOU... "DEAR MR. RABBIT: MISSED MY FLIGHT TO EARTH. MAYBE NEXT TIME." (SIGNED) THE STRANGLER FROM MARS, ESQ.
HUH!?!


NOW...
WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR FURNITURE?
THE END